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Office of General Counsel

OLC #78-1301

23 May 1978

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NOTE TO: Acting Legislative Counsel

FROM:

Anthony A. Lapham, General Counsel

SUBJECT: Agency Policy Regarding MKULTRA-Related Inquiries as to Institutional

Involvement

REF:

Your note to me of 22 May

Lyle:

While I am not insensitive to the "human factors" here, I continue to fail to see how we can depart from Agency policy in this regard without abandoning it altogether. Surely in this case Senator Gravel's office will be able to satisfy the constituent's concern about unwitting drug testing with the information already available to it, since she indicates she is only interested in the period between 1971 and 1973 and your letter states these activities were terminated in 1964.

The Victorian Hotel inquiry, dealing as it does with use of properties as Agency safehouses, raises considerations beyond those connected with

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MKULTRA. While these drug testing programs may be rationalized away as activities in which CIA no longer has an interest, the use of safehouses remains an indispensable part of Agency operations which could be seriously limited by a policy other than noncomment.

Anthony/A. Lapham

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